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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 3718**

Yukio NAGASAKI et al. : Attorney Docket No. 2006_0003A

Serial No. 10/563,816 : Group Art Unit 4173

Filed January 6, 2006 : Examiner Kyle A. Purdy

CONJUGATE OF FINE POROUS
PARTICLES WITH POLYMER MOLECULES
AND THE UTILIZATION THEREOF : **Mail Stop Amendment**

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
AND
ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of October 25, 2007, constituting a restriction requirement among (I) claims 1-16, (II) claim 17 and (III) claim 18, Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of Group I, i.e. claims 1-16.

In response to the requirement for election of species, and referring to the species identified by the Examiner in item 6 on page 3 of the Office Action, Applicants elect:

- (A) polyethylene glycol as the polymer molecule,
- (B) silica as the particle material, and
- (C) antimicrobial agent as the functional substance.

The claims that read on all of the elected species taken together, are claims 1-5, 7, 9-10 and 13.

Applicants emphasize that the foregoing elections are made while reserving their rights under 35 U.S.C. §121 to file a divisional application for the non-elected subject matter.

Action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Yukio NAGASAKI et al.

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